promotion to the grade of Sub-Divisional Engineer, was transferred to Unnao in June, 2000;

(c) No, Sir. The above officer has since joined at Unnao on 8th February, 2002.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Free of cost Spectrum Management to new operators

*277. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Spectrum Management" is being provided to new operators free of cost thereby incurring a loss of Rs. 3,000 crores to the exchequer;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are considering to provide voice and low speed data service in the villages by the end of year 2002 and achieve internet access to all the District Headquarters, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Spectrum Management or the spectrum is not provided free of cost to the new operators or any other service provider.

(c) Government has a policy to provide one Village Public Telephone, in each revenue village of the country, which is being implemented progressively. The VPTs can support low speed data services like Fax, etc. In addition, the Government is also upgrading the PCOs in Block Headquarters to Sanchar Dhabas (Cyber Cafe). Government has provided internet access to all District Headquarters.